



BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona Strip District • 345 East Riverside Drive • St. George, UT 84790

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Mt. Emma Fire Burns 75 Miles Southeast of St. George, Utah

St. George, Utah —On June 24, 2015, fire staff from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arizona Strip District responded to a smoke report from field staff and the Black Rock Lookout. The lightning-caused Mt. Emma Fire started at approximately 4:40 p.m. and is located 75 miles southeast of St. George, Utah in rugged terrain. The fire is 2,043 acres in size and began on the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument. The fire began burning into a remote portion of the Grand Canyon National Park Thursday morning.

“The fire experienced an active burn period throughout the day and the majority of the evening,” said BLM Arizona Strip District Public Affairs Officer Rachel Carnahan. “Initial attack personnel continue assessments to determine the best possible suppression tactics,” said Carnahan. “The rough terrain the fire is burning in simply minimizes access from which crews can safely fight the fire so suppression will include direct and indirect tactics throughout the length of this fire in order to maintain safety for fire personnel.”

Resources on the fire include 1 hotshot crew, 1 Type 2 Initial Attack, 7 Great Basin Smoke Jumpers, 1 Type 3 helicopter, and 1 Type 6 Engine. The fire is burning in open Ponderosa pine and pinyon and juniper. Retardant was flown on the fire Thursday night.

The fire is burning within the footprint of the 1999 Emma Fire which burned 1,286 acres. It is also located northwest of the 2005 Tuweep fire which burned 1,866 acres.

The Wolf Hole Fire located 10 miles south of St. George, Utah near Hodgets Canyon that burned 7 acres was called out.

The 57 acre Sand Cove Fire located 30 miles southwest of St. George, Utah on the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument is not actively burning and is under monitor status.

There are no road or trail closures anticipated at this time. The public is urged to use caution when traveling in the area. Smoke may be visible from St. George.

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The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency.

This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska.

The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation.

The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.